THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL,

A LARGE FORTY-EIGHT COLUMN PAPER AND THE CHEAPEST NEWS, MISCELLANEOUS, LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE, AND VALUABLE READING FOR THE FAMILY.

TERMS OF THE WEEKLY:

For One Year (in advance) $2 00
For Six Months 1 10

Single copies of the paper can be had at the office of publication.

The name and P. O. address of the writer, and in the case of remittances, the name of the person to whom the money belongs, must in all cases be distinctly given.

Communications designed to call an attention to any matter must be accompanied by the name of the author.

Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., should be addressed to the Publishers.

COMMERCIAL Buildings.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. VI.—NO. 38. WEEKLY EDITION. JULY 24, 1869.

THE DAILY COMMERCIAL,

PUBLISHED BY THE COMMERCIAL PRINTING COMPANY.

OFFICE, 76 FIFTH AVENUE, (OPPOSITE POSTOFFICE.)

C. D. BRIGHAM, ——— Editor.

R. D. THOMPSON, Business Manager.

TERMS OF THE DAILY:

Single Copy ..... 3 Cents.
Delivered by Carrier (per week) ..... 25 Cents.
Subscribers by Mail, (per year) ..... $10 00.

Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address THE COMMERCIAL, PITTSBURGH.

INTEMPERANCE AS A DISEASE.

Report of Committee of the State Medical Society of Pennsylvania.

At the last annual meeting of this Society, it was unanimously Resolved, That a committee be appointed to report at the next meeting on the medical, moral, and other aspects of intemperance from alcohol and opium, and any duty or physicians, in the premises."

Your Committee have endeavored to examine the subject carefully, and most respectfully submit the following

REPORT.

The statement that there is a "medical aspect" to intemperance, presupposes that intemperance, either from alcohol or opium, is a disease, or, if this be true, it is an interesting inquiry, how far the fact modifies the relation of the subject to morals and to society. On this subject, we find ourselves embarrassed by conflicting authorities in law and morals, which, while they may not deny that intemperance is generally a disease, still deal with it as criminality, as an offence against law and morality. In this respect it is an anomaly in our profession, because not only has it positive and well-defined symptoms, by which even non-professional observers are distinguished, but it is made a prominent offence against common decency and public order. Your committee therefore find it difficult or impossible to reconcile the antipathy of the world with the ordinary methods of professional therapy and inquiry, as found in other diseases which have no such enforcements.

EXERCISE OF ASCERTAIN FACULTIES.

There are, however, distinct forms and varieties of intemperance, which are well defined, and of which we propose briefly to notice, as that class of men who tame their wives, scourge the in-laws, "whoop" but not to injure, and who are only special. There are temporarily insane or maniacal fronzies, which not necessarily subject to the control, for medical observation and treatment.

Periodic are, however, at least three other classes:

1. The occasional drinker, who sometimes, but seldom, crosses the boundaries of sobriety.

2. The periodical drunkard, who at intervals, through a variety of causes, falls into habits of excessive drinking, and who may or may not, in the intervening periods, be entirely sober.

3. The habitual drunkard, who indulges more or less constantly in the excessive use of intoxicating drinks, and who, from the force of habit, has become more or less subject to the control of his appetite.

The occasional drinker, who sometimes, but seldom, crosses the boundaries of sobriety, is not a subject for medical treatment, except in the ordinary manner in the exercise of professional skill, and is not, as a class, subject to the control of medical jurisprudence, or to any modification of the common law.

The habitual drunkard, who indulges more or less constantly in the excessive use of intoxicating drinks, and who, from the force of habit, has become more or less subject to the control of his appetite, is not necessarily subject to the control, for medical observation and treatment.

The periodic are, however, at least three other classes:

1. The occasional drinker, who sometimes, but seldom, crosses the boundaries of sobriety.

The periodical drunkard, who at intervals, through a variety of causes, falls into habits of excessive drinking, and who may or may not, in the intervening periods, be entirely sober.

The habitual drunkard, who indulges more or less constantly in the excessive use of intoxicating drinks, and who, from the force of habit, has become more or less subject to the control of his appetite, is not necessarily subject to the control, for medical observation and treatment.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JULY 24, 1869.

SOME CRITICISMS ON THE CHINESE QUESTION.

The fact that Senator Conness, an able and influential Democrat of California, have assumed a position of antagonism to Chinese emigration, and that in their view they are supported by the Democratic party of the Pacific States, attracts attention to the manner in which the Legislatures of that section propose to deal with the question. We perceive it is not according to the fact when we say that a majority of the workingmen on our western coast, of both parties, regard the proposed flood of Chinese emigration with jealousy, and will oppose all measures favoring it, unless the political inequality of the Chinese and their detention in menial employments and unskilled labor, is accepted as their future condition in this country. We have no doubt that the prejudice will in no case, but nevertheless it is now the controlling sentiment on the Pacific coast. The skilled mechanic dreads the competition of the industrious, frugal and economical Chinese, for the reason that in proportion a cutting down of wages, and that opposition is by no means unnatural; and when the act begins to be understood that the great bulk of Chinese emigration passing through the Golden Gates, will find a much more extended market than the narrow strip on the Pacific now in process of development, we think the local authorities on the Chinese question in California will rapidly abate. The Chinese in fact, are not wanted for California, and the concerted measures looking to increased emigration contemplate their use on the cotton, rice and sugar plantations of the Southern States, in the lower grades of employment, now almost solely in the hands of the negro.

Senator Cole, of California, Mr. Conness's Republican associate in the Senate, we are glad to see, in the treatment of this question, views above the local prejudices of his section as well as the narrow views put forth by Senator Conness. In a late published letter to his constituents, Mr. Cole speaks appreciatingly of the benefits California has realized from Chinese emigration, and says the State would have failed many of the elements of material prosperity it now possesses, but for them. No one can point to harm they have done to or set the good they have accomplished. Nor can Senator Cole have more of the Chinese coming here for the State becoming overrun by them, and assumes the somewhat novel idea that Nature may owe her future prosperity and greatness to Chinese industry and perseverance. On this point we quote from his letter:

> "I have no fear of the Chinese overrunning the State. Their habits of life will always prevent them from coming in large numbers. Their passage money, which is from fifty to seventy dollars per head, will be a barrier to their coming in large numbers. Their habits of life are such that they will not settle in the cities, but will be found in the agricultural districts. Even if the Fifteenth Amendment, now pending before the States for ratification. Under that amendment, with a commercial of suffrage in all doors for the white Union, in the matter of race and nativity, we is left to the States to introduce an educational test if they deem it expedient to do so. And it is not a violent presumption to say to assume that the importing of the Chinese will hasten the adoption of the educational test. The brilliance for instance, who now thinks that every male has an inalienable right" to vote, without reference to the state of his intelligence, would probably support the election from the Chinese vote of a knowledge of the English language, and of the principles of the Government, and this might furnish the first step towards a formal recognition of the same principle of general education, as applicable to all. We would much rather trust the Fifteenth amendment, and the remedies left by it to the several States, to counteract the evil effects of Chinese emigration, than to the possibility suggested by Senator Cole, that the Chinamen will consent to live, prosper, grow rich and die in a state of absolute indifference as to the civil government over him.

We think this is true, but there are other evils that will claim their needed supply of Chinese labor before the season is ripe, as towards Mexico. California will be nothing more than the outlet from the great continent for the people in populations of China and Japan—a way station to the Mississippi Valley or to the markets of Utah, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico, which can be made to blossom with the products of the earth, under the Chinese system of irrigation. The Chinese as a class almost, are skilled in the production of some article of great importance to us, which we cannot produce without them, but which can be produced by them probably as well in our country as they can in their own. This skill, when exercised upon our own soil, and in our own wage system becomes American, and we reap the advantage. Those who oppose the introduction of the Chinese because of the cheapness of their labor forget the old proverbs that there is no economy in dear labor, and that the cheapness of the latter who closely follow, and probably conquered the demand of the white man for a liberal existence. The true country or any cell influence on our political system experienced from the Chinese, supporting their cause over in this country, by the limited thousand or million, we think will be found to lie in the possibilities of State legislation on the suffrage question under the Fifteenth Amendment, now pending before the States for ratification. Under that amendment, with a commercial of suffrage in all doors for the white Union, in the matter of race and nativity, we is left to the States to introduce an educational test if they deem it expedient to do so. And it is not a violent presumption to say to assume that the importing of the Chinese will hasten the adoption of the educational test. The brilliance for instance, who now thinks that every male has an inalienable right" to vote, without reference to the state of his intelligence, would probably support the election from the Chinese vote of a knowledge of the English language, and of the principles of the Government, and this might furnish the first step towards a formal recognition of the same principle of general education, as applicable to all. We would much rather trust the Fifteenth amendment, and the remedies left by it to the several States, to counteract the evil effects of Chinese emigration, than to the possibility suggested by Senator Cole, that the Chinamen will consent to live, prosper, grow rich and die in a state of absolute indifference as to the civil government over him.

> "I have no fear of the Chinese overrunning the State. Their habits of life will always prevent them from coming in large numbers. Their passage money, which is from fifty to seventy dollars per head, will be a barrier to their coming in large numbers. Their habits of life are such that they will not settle in the cities, but will be found in the agricultural districts. Even if the Fifteenth Amendment, now pending before the States for ratification. Under that amendment, with a commercial of suffrage in all doors for the white Union, in the matter of race and nativity, we is left to the States to introduce an educational test if they deem it expedient to do so. And it is not a violent presumption to say to assume that the importing of the Chinese will hasten the adoption of the educational test. The brilliance for instance, who now thinks that every male has an inalienable right" to vote, without reference to the state of his intelligence, would probably support the election from the Chinese vote of a knowledge of the English language, and of the principles of the Government, and this might furnish the first step towards a formal recognition of the same principle of general education, as applicable to all. We would much rather trust the Fifteenth amendment, and the remedies left by it to the several States, to counteract the evil effects of Chinese emigration, than to the possibility suggested by Senator Cole, that the Chinamen will consent to live, prosper, grow rich and die in a state of absolute indifference as to the civil government over him.

Last week Wisconsin and the newly elected Legislature of Virginia will be nearly professional officers until Congress admits the State under the new Constitution, ratified by the people at the late election. We perceive that the Democratic Legislature of Wisconsin will not be satisfied with the reduction of the State debt, which is at the rate of about $100,000 per annum, but are stifled in the protection of some articles of great importance to us, which we cannot produce without them, but which can be produced by them probably as well in our country as they can in their own. This skill, when exercised upon our own soil, and in our own wage system becomes American, and we reap the advantage. Those who oppose the introduction of the Chinese because of the cheapness of their labor forget the old proverbs that there is no economy in dear labor, and that the cheapness of the latter who closely follow, and probably conquered the demand of the white man for a liberal existence. The true country or any cell influence on our political system experienced from the Chinese, supporting their cause over in this country, by the limited thousand or million, we think will be found to lie in the possibilities of State legislation on the suffrage question under

Weekly Commercial.

THE POWERS EXPOSITION.

Full Particulars of the Magnificent Display Now Open—Opening the Records—The Scenery.

The Exposition of Monday promises to be a grand success. The attendance will be large, for the day of exercises is the day of the letter agents of the Commercial, and the Commercial has engaged in securing strong aids. In the first number of the letter agents of the Commercial, directions and instructions were given. We need not repeat to many readers who have received them, and we are sure to many subscribers. Sections of the country have been represented, and the Commercial has been represented. We said:

"Now the time has come. We have been engaged in the collection of the information which is to be published in the Commercial, and we are now ready to begin the publication. The information is of the most important character, and we are sure that it will be read with interest by every subscriber to the Commercial. We have been engaged in the collection of this information for the past two months, and we have been assisted by the most eminent men in the country. We have been assisted by the most eminent men in the country. We have been assisted by the most eminent men in the country. We

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JULY 24, 1869.

TERMS.

One Copy, per annum, ... $2 00
Two Copies, " " 3 00
Five Copies, " " 7 00
Ten Copies, " " and one gratis to getter up of Club, ... 12 00

THE MACHINE UNDER THE GUN AGAIN.

The power of money in moulding and controlling the politics of Pennsylvania, and as a consequence supressing honest enfranchisement and honorable ambition in the public service, had a signal illustration in the action of the late Harrisburg Convention. That Mr. Packer is a man of almost countless wealth, acquired in the pursuit of honorable business and shrewd speculations in real estate and limited securities, is to his credit, and we do not propose to cast a shadow on the lesson of his useful life. But the fact is indisputable that it is to his vast riches he owes his nomination, and not to the possession of any of the qualities for usefulness in the public service, that often insure the elevation to high trusts of men poor in material wealth but richly endowed with political wisdom and appreciation of the correct principles of administration. Mr. Packer's good man would never have been named in the Democratic Convention, as a moderately wealthy man he might possibly have secured a few votes by zealous electioneering, as did General Case; but as a man of extraordinary and almost illimitable wealth, the political barnacle gathered about him, and forced his nomination upon the single plea of his money bags and their prospective assistance to the party and personal advantage to the politicians running the machine. This is no fancy sketch. Mr. Packer's wealth nominated him; it was the cause urged why he should be nominated; it was his single element of availability. There was no pretense that he was the equal of Case in general capacity, and especially in the qualifications to shine in the executive department of the State government. General Case is well understood to be a gentleman of affluence and influential wealth; but Judge Packer could give a check to-morrow for a sum double that of the late opponent's entire resources, and it would be honored without embarrassment or inconvenience. Here is the secret of the choice made by the Democratic Convention between the two men.

The tendency of our politics to reduce the path to honorable position to all executives who can gild it with their gold or make their ware by wire pulling and combination. This is illustrated in the public service everywhere. Hedged hedged by ample wealth, or supported and made successful by the arts and low cunning of the demagogue, crowds honorable ambition—inspired by the desire to serve the State for love of the State and its free institutions—from a legitimate field of labor. The leaders of the State are not within the grasp of the poor man, but are concentrated in the vicious atmosphere and politicians with their money. This is the reason we are chilling to a dead level of incompetence or brace in the public service, and why the gates to preferment are closed against those who possess the undeveloped elements of statesmanship and political wisdom. Instead of raising up statesmen, we are throwing official preferment into the mire and left to lift off by moneybags. It is not difficult to trace the influence of this policy in our own State, in the disappearance from public life of a class of men who will not enter the fight against such odds as great riches scatter to their fortunate possessor.

In this view we regard the nomination of Judge Packer as eminently unfortunate not to the partisan cause alone, but in its influence upon the general politics of the State. In directly, the nomination was gratuitous. It was lavished alone by the politicians and by Democrats, then to Case, and then to Mr. Connell, but finally knocked down to Packer as the Caesar of our Pompeian political gamesters.

THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE.

The Democratic candidate for Governor is a gentleman of irreproachable private character, in whom his attached friends feel an honest pride. He has amassed great wealth by successful business ventures, and in the disbursement of it to educational and benevolent purposes has manifested the truest liberality. Mr. Packer, as a man, therefore, will receive none but kind words from us during the canvass, and we see no present reason for indulging in severe criticism. His nomination was made by the Philadelphians for the purpose of promoting the success of their legislative and county tickets by the aid of his good name and unbounded wealth, of which—his wealth, we mean—Mr. Packer is reported to contribute with a lavish hand to the excitement of the party. Of course Mr. Packer could not accept the support by the Philadelphia "ring," but it shows the corrupting influence that corporate confidence, and in the case it is unfortunate that they are so confided and so ostentatious character. The odor of the transaction is bad. But for his money Packer would have never been thought of. His great wealth unbottled by a word him as nomination, for although a skilful manipulator of stocks and railroads, Mr. Packer is not in any sense a statesman or even a politician of experience, and that his nomination on such grounds would have been an absurdity. We presume he will receive his full party vote, and while there are some local causes that may increase it in the county where he resides, yet there are others—and notably his extensive connection with New York railroad interests—that will cut down his vote in some of the most populous sections of the State. It is asserted that Mr. Packer did not desire his own nomination, but was overruled by the importunate demands of advisers who make profit out of his generosity. This being true, it argues a personal weakness unbecoming to him, since he is made to appear a persistent office seeker, not desiring office.

Mr. Curtis L. Fullerton is a lawyer of respectable attainments, but has never engaged judicial station, and in this respect his nomination is somewhat singular, as it has been the case in Pennsylvania, almost invariably, to take our Supreme Judges from the minor courts, thereby securing desirable judicial experience. Mr. Fullerton served four years in the Legislature, and it is said to his honor that he came out of the ordeal untainted by the prevailing corruption. But this was some time ago. If he was a candidate for the Legislature it might go for something in his favor. The Pennsylvania Railroad officers took great interest in Mr. Fullerton's nomination, a fact that may be accounted for by his long connection with the road as one of its solicitors.

THE DEMOCRATIC SECRETARY IN POLITICS.

It seems to be highly probable that the forthcoming National Temperance Convention in Chicago, will attract to its sessions the most earnest advocates of prohibition in the Union, and that the policy and recommendations of the Convention will be urged upon the absolute prohibition of spirituous and malt liquors. There can be no doubt but that the Convention will be sufficiently radical, but no appointment would be much better for the cause and a large attendance be secured of those who, while thoroughly appreciating the progressive of the monster evil, yet possess a practical knowledge of the difficulties in the way of prohibition and of the disastrous effects of the failure of such a policy should it be incorporated in the legislation of the various States. The trouble with most of the prohibitionists is that their theories as to the suppression of the evils of intemperance are formed in the closet and are not the result of active contact with men, or study of the effects of repression laws where they exceed a certain point. This information they could obtain from temperance men who do not go to the extreme of prohibition, and yet are as sincere and earnest as the most advanced proselytizers, but this class will hardly attend the Chicago Convention, as the plan of its originators appears to be an active political canvass in the interest of prohibition, pure and simple. It is a great misfortune that the zeal of one class and the discretion and worldly knowledge of another cannot be united in the suggestion of a plan of action acceptable to all friends of temperance. One fact is sufficiently stamped to suppress, or at all events shake the veil, and put at the same time capable of practical enforcement.

With these extreme temperance men, in spite of plumber in the pool, and wherever necessity mystified, united their forces and worked for common purposes, and further, that they are now hand in glove, in the preparation of new measures designed to oppress and burthen the people for the benefit of speculators in the politics and funds of the State. This is one of the most disgraceful features in Pennsylvania politics, for in it seems to take the moral means of remedying official wrong out of the hands of the people. Revelation if one party was objectionable in its candidates or policy, an appeal to the other might remedy the evil, punish the offenders, or frighten them into propriety. But now, with a ring of legislative corruptionists controlling both parties in some portions of the State, the only remedy for the people, Republicans and Democrats alike, is to keep the whole brood of jobbers from political or official position. This is a question above and beyond all theories of mere party success, for unless something is done to annihilate the evil it will become chronic and inseparable from our State politics and State legislation. Therefore we again appeal, wherever or whenever the opportunity presents itself it is the imperative duty of every good citizen to strike at these ring candidates, no matter whether they attach themselves to the Democratic or Republican fragments of the plundering circle. No better occasion than the present will offer itself for years. It can be done—and this is the great point at this time—without any compromise of vital principles, or fear of promoting the success of a dangerous political policy.

THE LESSON OF THE ELECTIONS.

The lasting of the English and French cables, and the circumstances and conditions under which they are controlled, seem to have established the necessity and practicability of the third, in America lands; and what is further, the undertaking of such an enterprise at an early date is the more highly probable. Independent of the reasons that influence against the French cable going into operation, given as one is the fact that the rights of Americans are not guaranteed, it is urged that the fact of the foreign ownership and control of both cables suggests considerations of over-reaching unfriendly like which should be a cable at least not inimical to American interests, under the control of our admiralty. At the very least we must make ourselves the equal of other nations in this respect. It is well said that a circumstances are not to arise at any time in which the existing cables may be used to our serious detriment. Says the New York *Times*.

> We ought to have a cable of our own, and we ought to have it at once. Every day's delay is a day's loss to the country. Every day's delay is a day's loss to the country. Every day's delay is a day's loss to the country